[Mr. S. Sundararajan].

studying the conditions of reserves with the object of preparing a revised working plan for the guidance of the department in timber exploitation and regenerative operations. Provision is accordingly made for the continuance of a working plans officer. Under the auspices of our University a forestry course has also been opened and Government have deputed five junior officers of the department to undergo the course.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.

(a) *Nation Building Services.*

43. But the budget in respect of the nation building and other development services cannot be disposed of summarily. The primary concern of any enlightened progressive and sympathetic administration is to make its sons and daughters a band of healthy and well-educated citizens. That Travancore holds a high place in the matter of education among other countries in India is a point which is now universally accepted. If the amount spent on education were to be the measure of the progress of the country, it will be conceded that the education budget is easily the biggest. It makes a demand of at least 20 per cent. of the revenue of the State. The year's education budget is Rs 51·94 lakhs against the revised estimate of Rs 51·32 lakhs thus representing an increase of Rs ·62 of a lakh which is about the measure of the annual progress we make in our primary and secondary education in the country. That our infant University is developing on right and national lines will be evident from the recognition its degree has received for the purpose of the Indian Civil Service Examination in the United Kingdom and the Government of India Examinations.

44. Equally prominent mention should be made of the activities of the Medical and Health Departments in promoting the health and happiness of the people. The medical budget provides for as much as Rs 16,000 for new items of expenditure which include more nursing facilities and tuberculosis and leprosy survey. Another sum of Rs 2,000 is also included for radium treatment.

Under Ayurveda provision is made for Panchakarma treatment.

The question of utilising the services of a large number of unemployed but highly qualified medical diploma holders has been a problem for Government. They have come to the conclusion that a corps of volunteers of young men and women should be enlisted for practical training before they are actually offered appointments in State or private hospitals.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

They have accordingly selected seven men and three women for training for one year, and Government hope that besides eventually improving the tone of the medical department the scheme would serve the purpose of giving an opportunity for the youth of the country to be of service to the State.

45. Under the Health Department provision is made for preventive measures for control of filariasis in Shertallai and the surrounding area and for the organisation of the health scheme with special emphasis on modern public health methods including the registration of vital statistics and the control of communicable diseases.

46. Public works is also a subject which comes within the scheme of a progressive programme. Although the budget provides for a total expenditure of Rs 33·33 lakhs mention should be made of the constitution of Public Works Department Advisory Committee which is to advise on Government's programme of Public works including urban and rural communications generally and to help to formulate a long term plan for carrying out, in the proper order of priority and with advertence to the financial resources available to the Department, a scheme for bringing into existence, maintaining and renovating adequate means of communication by land and water to serve the interests of the State. The Committee will further advise on programmes of irrigation, water supply, drainage, the relief of water scarcity and such other problems as are placed before it at the instance of Government or the Department.

47. Another special feature is, certain works round about the Alleppey area are proposed to be undertaken with a view to giving employment to the unemployed factory labourers.

(b) *Development services.*

48. The next need of an efficient and civilised administration is the improvement of its resources and the contentment of its masses. Improvement of methods of cultivation of land and preservation of all the agricultural and cattle wealth of the country are the chief forms which the fulfilment of the object takes. Encouragement of industry as hand-maid to agriculture is also one other form and the contentment of the masses is secured by several uplift works of a socio-economic nature.

49. As honourable members are already well aware, Agriculture is a department of Government on which so much is being done and so much has still to be done. I shall mention a few.

(*a*) Propaganda branch of the Agricultural Department has been reorganised and attention is now directed towards securing rural development at one centre in each taluk so that it may radiate improved agricultural practices in course of time.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. S. Sundararajan]

(*b*) With a view to multiplying and distributing improved varieties of sugarcane and for demonstrating scientific methods of cultivating sugarcane, extracting juice and manufacturing jaggery, a sugarcane sub-station is proposed to be opened at a suitable site near Thiruvella which is the centre of an extensive sugarcane growing tract. The feasibility of using electricity for irrigation purposes and for crushing cane will also be demonstrated at the station.

(*c*) It is also proposed to open a farm in South Travancore near Cape Comorin for the experimental cultivation of dry crops such as cholam, tenai, cotton, pulses etc.

(*d*) The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned a grant of Rs 14,600 spread over a period of three years in the first instance for the improvement of paddy in the State, and as under the Council's rules of procedure the State has to bear half the cost of the scheme, a provision of Rs 3,640 has been made in the next year's budget for the first year's investigation under the scheme.

(*e*) For treating the ordinary ailments of cattle and assisting at the carrying out of cattle improvement schemes, provision has been made for the appointment of half a dozen stockmen in the department.

(*f*) A new veterinary dispensary in addition to those already in the State is proposed to be opened at Pangode.

50. *Cottage Industries.* The policy of Government in the matter cannot be better expressed, Sir, than in your own words.

"I am not one of those who disregard or view with disdain factory production. I am not one of those who wish to go back to pre-historic epochs. One thing electricity has done; it has decentralised industry. Before electricity became easily available, industries had a tendency to concentrate in towns with the result of adding to crowding and evils arising from town life. The transmission of electricity over long distances has made it possible for great industries to thrive apart from centres of dense population. I am looking forward in Travancore, not merely to the rise of huge industrial centres, but to a network of cottage industries and middle-sized factories."

A provision of Rs 17,400 for direct aid to cottage industries has been made in the budget and this is in addition to the liberal loan policy for financing the industrialists.

51. Prospecting the rich mineral resources like mica, graphite, limestone &c., which bountiful nature has endowed this country in abundance is one of the first steps necessary for the development of the resources of the country and this

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

question has accordingly been of late receiving very great and deserving attention. An impetus was given to the work when Dr. Gillson, a well known American geologist and an Indian Professor undertook to inspect the work and prescribed the lines on which the work should be carried on. A provision of Rs 21,200 has been included in the budget and investigation in the direction will be carried on in four places in Neyyattinkara Taluk and Vattiyurkavu in Trivandrum. We have already obtained the assurance that limestone available in our State will be enough to cater to the cement requirements of our State for many years to come.

Socio-economic measures.

52. To secure the contentment of the masses, apart from the socio-economic measures intended primarily for the upliftment of the depressed and the distressed, Government are endeavouring in various other directions. I shall take up the socio-economic measures first.

53. *Uplift of backward communities.* A separate department for the uplift of backward communities is functioning in the State for the past 15 years and has been doing useful work. An amount of Rs 35,000 is earmarked for this department for this year over and above the usual provision of Rs 7,500. The activities include, assignment of land for house sites and cultivation, collective acquisition of raw materials for buildings, educational concessions in schools and colleges, sinking wells in Harijan colonies and putting up of common buildings for social and religious congregations of these people.

54. *Co-operation.* Extension of co-operative facilities is another form which this form of uplift takes.

Provision has been included in the budget for the Co-operative department as usual for development of non-official co-operative efforts by issue of loans and grants to co-operative institutions. Provision has also been made for giving loans to deserving societies. Non-credit amenities are given an impetus by way of grants with a view to developing co-operative mentality. An amount of Rs 500 has also been earmarked for societies engaged in the development of cottage industries for advertisement and propaganda.

Relief of distress.

55. In view of the present condition of factory labour and their poverty and unemployment, Government propose to set apart a sum of Rs 5 lakhs from out of their revenue surplus to be credited to a fund which would bear the title "Distress Relief Fund." The amount at credit will be available

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